

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 00724 270426Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01

HA-05 MCE-00 OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 CU-04

/103 W

-----044997 280403Z /41

R 261624Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8413

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 0724

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINS, SHUM, PE

SUBJECT: GOP ACTS TO RESOLVE POLITICAL/LABOR PROBLEMS AT CHIMBOTE

REF: (A) LIMA 0424, (B) LIMA 0559

1. THE GOP JAN 23 DECLARED THE CITY OF CHIMBOTE IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY" AND SUSPENDED CONSITUTIONAL GURANTEES, AMONG THEM REQUIREMENTS OF WARRANTS FOR ENTERING PRIVATE HOMES OR DETENTION FOR MORE THA 24 HOURS AS WELL AS FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE GOVERNMENT PLACED THE CITY UNDER DIRECT MILITARY RULE AND IMPOSED A CURFEW (8 P.M. TO 5 A.M.). AT THE SAME TIME THE GOP CALLED CITY AND DEPARTMENTAL AUTHORITIES ALONG WITH THE UNION LEADERS OF THE SIDERPERU STRIKE (REF A) TO LIMA FOR A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS. AFTER MEETING WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES FROM THE AREA, I.E., THE GOVERNOR OF ANCASH, CHIMBOTE'S MAYOR MARIO PEREZ GONZALEZ AND BISHOP CARLOS ANTIAGO BURKE, GOP DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED A PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM JANUARY 24 FOR THE CHIMBOTE REGION OF ABOUT \$27,000. THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS AND TALKS REPORTEDLY ELICITED POSITIVE RESPONSES
AS THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES CALLED FOR GOOD FAITH AND CONFIDENCE WHILE BISHOP BURKE CALLED ON CHIMBOTE'S POPULATION TO BE CALM
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 00724 270426Z

AND TO SEEK SOLUTIONS THROUGH DIALOG.

2. EMBASSY SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE 72-HOUR STRIKE (JAN 23-25) CALLED BY VARIOUS LABOR, STUDENT AND SLUM AREA LEADERS ENJOYED INITIAL "SUCCESS", PARALYZING BUSINESS AND TRAFFIC. THE PROTEST WAS CALLED IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE CANCELLED BY THE COMMUNIST LABOR CONFEDERATION (REF B) AS WELL AS TO PROTEST

LOCAL GRIEVANCE. RELIABLE OBSERVERS HAVE TOLD EMBASSY THAT SUCCESSFUL INTIMIDATION OF MODERATE ELEMENTS BY THE ULTRA-LEFT ASSOCIATED WITH THE SIDERPERU STRIKE AND THE POLITICAL PROTEST HAS GIVEN AN APPEARANCE OF MORE POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE DEMONSTRATORS THAN ACTUALLY EXISTS.

3. COMMENT: THE SUSPENSION OF GUARANTEES, THE CURFEW, AND A MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE CITY, ALONG WITH THE GOP'S WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS CHIMBOTE'S PROBLEMS WITH LOCAL LEADERS PROBABLY HAVE IMPROVED THE GOVERNMENT'S CHANCES OF RESTORING ORDER AND REACHING SOME REASONABLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS. THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE COST OF LIVING INCREASE THAT SIDERPERU WORKERS ARE SEEKING CANNOT BE GRANTED (1977 GOP DECREES PROHIBIT COST OF LIVING INCREASES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR). HOWEVER A WAGE INCREASE AVERAGING ABOUT 5,000 SOLES PER MONTH, ALMOST EQUAL TO THE COSTA OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT, COULD PROBABLY BE GIVEN UNDER SOME OTHER PRETEXT. THE GOP ALSO IS PREPARED TO REVIEW THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE 50-60 FIRED LABOR ACTIVISTS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. HOWEVER, SIDERPERU'S "ULTRA LEFT" UNIONISTS WERE SEEKING GENERAL AMNESTY AND REPOSITIONING OF FIRED WORKERS WITHOUT REVIEW. DESPITE THE BAD FEELINGS EXACERBATED BY PROTESTS AND VIOLENCE, A SOLUTION APPEARS TO BE DEVELOPING AS THE GOP EMPLOYS A CARROT-AND-STICK APPROACH TO THE TROUBLED SITUATION.

SHLAUDEMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, MARTIAL LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LIMA00724
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780042-0122
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780120/aaaaaqpx.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6a4309e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LIMA 424, 78 LIMA 559
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3711005
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOP ACTS TO RESOLVE POLITICAL/LABOR PROBLEMS AT CHIMBOTE
TAGS: ELAB, PINS, SHUM, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a4309e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014